ELEVENTH REPORT

STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOUR & WELFARE (1995-96)

(TENTH LOK SABHA)

MINISTRY OF LABOUR

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (1995-96)

Presented to Lok Sabha on _____

Laid in Rajya Sabha on 5 MAY 1995

सत्यमेव जयते

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

April, 1995/Chaitra, 1917 (Saka)

CORRIGENDA TO THE ELEVENTH REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON LABOUR AND WELFARE ON THE DEMANDS FOR GRANTS, 1995-96 OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR.

Page No.	Para No.	Line	for	Read
9	2.11	2	he	the
12	Statement	1	1900	1990
18	2.42	2	he	the

CONTENTS

PAGE

COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ..... (iii)

INTRODUCTION ..... (v)

CHAPTER I INTRODUCTORY 1

CHAPTER II REPORT 5

DEMAND FOR GRANTS – 1995-96

A. Labour Research and Statistics 5

B. Labour Tribunal Courts of Inquiry and conciliation Boards 7

C. Reorganisation and Strengthening of DG FASLI Organisation and Establishment of Special Cells 11

D. Directorate General Mines Safety 13

E. Social Security for Labour Deposit Linked Insurance Scheme 15

F. Employment Exchanges 17

G. National Child Labour Policy 21

H. Child Labour Cell 21

ANNEXURE I : Minutes of the Third Sitting of the Committee held on 20.4.1995 24

ANNEXURE II : Summary of Recommendations/Conclusions 26

COMMITTEE ON LABOUR AND WELFARE

(1995-96)

Shrimati Chandra Prabha Urs – *Chairperson*

MEMBERS

Lok Sabha

2. Shri D.K. Naikar
3. Shri S.B. Thorat
4. Shri Bheru Lal Meena
5. Shri Khagapati Pradhani
6. Shrimati Kamala Kumari Karreodula
7. Kumari Padmasree Kudumula
8. Shri Siddappa Bhimappa Nyamaguda
9. Dr. P. Vallal Peruman
10. Dr. Chinta Mohan
11. Shri A. Prathap Sai
12. Shri B. Akber Pasha
13. Shri Ramesh Chennithala
14. Shri Dattatraya Bandaru
15. Shri Chandubhai Deshmukh
16. Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat
17. Shri Ram Narain Berwa
18. Shri Shiv Raj Singh Chauhan
19. Shri Swami Sureshanand
20. Shri Ajoy Mukhopadhyay
21. Shri Rup Chand Murmu
22. Shri Vishwa Nath Shastri
23. Shri Mahendra Baitha
24. Dr. R. Sridharan
25. Shri Govinda Chandra Munda
26. Shri Ram Sagar
27. Shri Yaima Singh Yumnam
28. Shri Satyendra Nath Brohomo Chaudhury

Rajya Sabha

29. Maulana Obaidulla Khan Azmi
30. Shri Sushil Barongpa
31. Smt. Vidya Beniwal
32. Shri B.K. Hariprasad
33. Shri Mohindar Singh Kalyan
34. Shri Kanak Mal Katara
35. Shri Gundappa Korwar
36. Shri S. Muthu Mani
37. Shri Moolchand Meena
38. Shri Kameshwar Paswan
39. Shri Ram Ratan Ram
40. Shri Vayalar Ravi
41. Shri Jibon Roy
42. Shri Joyanta Roy

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri S.N. Mishra	–	*Additional Secretary*
2. Shri G.C. Malhotra	–	*Joint Secretary*
3. Shri Satish Loomba	–	*Deputy Secretary*
4. Shri R.S. Misra	–	*Assistant Director*

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson, Standing Committee on Labour and Welfare (1995-96) having been authorised by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Eleventh Report, on the Demands for Grants, 1995-96 of Ministry of Labour.

2. The Committee (1995-96) considered the Demands for Grants pertaining to the Ministry of Labour for the current year i.e. 1995-96 which were laid on the Table of the House on 28 March, 1995 whereafter the Committee took evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Labour on 10 April, 1995.

3. The Committee wish to express their thanks to the Officers of the Ministry of Labour for placing before them the detailed written notes on the subject and for furnishing the information the Committee desired in connection with the examination of the subject.

4. The Report was considered and adopted by the Committee at their sitting held on 20.4.1995.

NEW DELHI ;
April 20, 1995
Chaitra 30, 1917 (Saka)

CHANDRA PRABHA URS
Chairperson,
Standing Committee on
Labour and Welfare.

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTORY

1.1 The Shram Mantralaya (Ministry of Labour) is responsible for laying down policy in respect of labour matters including industrial relations, co-operation between labour and management, settlement of labour disputes, regulation of wages and other conditions of work and safety, women labour and child labour, labour welfare, social security etc. besides development and administration of employment service and training of craftsmen on national basis.

1.2 The implementation of the policy in regard to the above matters is also the responsibility of the State Governments concurrently with the Central Government.

1.3 To achieve the objectives, funds are required by the Ministry for their following functional divisions :

1. Welfare of SC/ST and other backward Classes
2. Labour Employment and Training
3. Grants-in-aid to State Governments
4. Grants-in-aid to Union Territory Governments
5. Aid Material and equipment
6. Capital outlay on other social services
7. Loans for other social services

1.4 The Demand for Grants asked by the Ministry are given under the Demand No. 56.

1.5 It has been stated in the Performance Budget that the planning Commission made an allocation of Rs. 126.00 crores during the year 1994-95 of which Rs. 15.00 crores were transferred to Ministry of Urban Development.

1.6 Budget Estimates of the Ministry for the year 1995-96 are placed at Rs. 530.80 crores (plan 114.04 crores and Non-Plan Rs. 416.76 crores). The Planning Commission made an allocation of Rs. 136.00 crores for the year out of which Rs. 21.96 crores have been transferred to Ministry of Urban Development for incorporation in the Budget documents of that Ministry for Capital Works to be executed during 1995-96.

1.7 The Ministry has furnished the following statement showing Budget Estimates and Revised Estimates 1994-95 and expenditure incurred under plan schemes/programme.

Plan — Ministry of labour financial review — Statement I (rs./crores)

S.No.	Name of the Scheme/ Programme	1994-95 BE.	1994-95 R.E.	Expenditure upto 28.2.95	%age Expenditure
1.	Research & Statistics	5.79	5.79	1.60	27.63
2.	Industrial Relations	2.59	2.59	0.80	30.88
3.	Working Conditions and Safety	2.46	2.78	1.33	47.84
4.	Labour Education	3.86	4.03	1.27	31.51
5.	Rural Labour/Rehabilitation of Bousnded Labour	2.42	2.68	0.46	17.16
6.	Child Labour	4.34	4.34	0.08	1.84
7.	Women's Labour	0.21	0.27	0.01	3.70
8.	Welfare of SC/ST	0.32	0.19	0.10	52.63
9.	Employment	2.12	2.12	0.28	13.20
10.	Training	88.39	70.05	14.17	20.23
	Total	112.50	94.84	20.10	21.19

Recommendation

1.8 The Committee are not at all satisfied with the performance of the Ministry in so far as the plan expenditure is concerned. The total percentage of plan expenditure in the year 1994-95 as on 28.2.95 comes out to 21.19 which is far from being satisfactory. The Committee note that eighty percent of the plan allocation of Ministry of Labour for the last three financial years has been for training. The Ministry has

however been able to spend only thirty two per cent of the total outlays during the period. The expenditure on other plan schemes such as Research and statistics, child labour, women's cell, Industrial Relations etc. has also been low. In their Fourth Report on Demands for Grants, 1994-95, the Committee had recommended that the funds allocated for various schemes should be utilised during the financial year for which they are earmarked. While reiterating their earlier recommendation the Committee desired that they should be informed about the progress made/expenditure incurred in various plan schemes after every six months.

1.9 The Committee are pained to note that the Ministry has taken their recommendations very lightly. In their view the Committee's recommendations should invariably be forwarded to the Planning Commission at the time of submission of Annual Plan proposals of the Ministry. As regards creation of posts, release of funds for various schemes, the Committee's view should accompany the Ministry's request to Ministry of Finance.

1.10 Although the Committee appreciate the efforts made by the Ministry in getting clearance of the proposal for procurement of equipment from the World Bank they are of the opinion that the matter should have been taken up with the World Bank after seeking help from the Department of Economic Affairs at an early stage. Nevertheless they desire that the Ministry of Labour should henceforth take steps in advance for early completion of the project and there should not be more slipages on any account. As regards poor response from some of the State Government in providing matching grant, construction of buildings etc. under the World Bank Project, the matter should be taken up at the Minister's level. While reiterating their earlier recommendation, the Committee are of the view that progress reports pertaining to stages achieved in the implementation of various schemes under the World Bank project should invariably be furnished to the Committee every six months.

1.11 The Committee are concerned to note that though the Government have been impressing upon the State Governments and UT administration for the speedy implementation of the recommendations of the Bachhawat Wage Board and requesting them to create Tripartite Committee/Special Cells at the highest level in this regard, responses from some of the State Governments have been far from satisfaction.

The Committee view the situation seriously. They urge upon the Ministry to take up the issue at the Ministers' level for speedy implementation of the recommendations. The Committee would like to be informed of the progress made in this regard at the earliest.

1.12 The Committee are of the view that it is urgent and paramount importance that some kind of consensus between the States should be elicited, through the efforts of the Central Government to ensure that a common national minimum wage is fixed so that the problems of migration of workers or closure of establishments or other administrative problems can be tackled effectively.

CHAPTER II

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS

Major Head – 2230

A. Sub-Head – C– 1(1) – Labour Research & Statistics

2.1 It has been stated by the Ministry that the labour Bureau is the premier agency for carrying out research studies and surveys on Labour related matters. It is also responsible for collection, collation and publication of statistical information on employment, wages, earnings strikes and lockout, labour turnover, working and living conditions etc. It also compiles and publishes Consumer Price Index Number for both industrial and agricultural workers. In addition, it brings out a number of regular and ad hoc publications.

2.2 The Ministry of Labour has informed the Committee that under this scheme Budget Estimates for 1994-95 were Rs. 5.79 crores. The actual expenditure incurred upto February, 1995 was only Rs. 1.60 crores. In the Budget Estimates for 1995-96, Rs. 6.46 crores have been provided.

Working Class family Income and Expenditure Survey, 1992-93

2.3 The Ministry has informed the Committee that out of the total budget grant of Rs. 5.79 crores for the year 1994-95, an amount of Rs. 2.54 crores could not be utilised due to non-sanction of Working Class Family Income & Expenditure Survey Scheme 1992-93. Thus the budget grant for the ongoing plan schemes amounts to Rs. 3.25 crores (Rs. 5.79 crores – Rs. 2.54 crores), of which around Rs. 2.50 crores has been utilised upto March, 1995. The savings out of Rs. 3.25 crores are mainly attributed to non-creation of additional posts which were proposed under the Rural Labour Enquiry, Modernisation of Machine Tabulation Unit, and Fourth Occupational Wage Survey Scheme.

2.4 The Ministry of Labour has also informed the Committee that this survey was due in 1991-92 with a gap of 10 years over 1981-82 survey. The proposal was initiated but could not materialise for want of clearance by the Government.

2.5 Detailing the steps taken by the Ministry of Labour for early clearance of the proposals, the Ministry has stated that a proposal for launching of new Working Class Family Income and Expenditure Survey

was submitted by Labour Bureau in December, 1990 for inclusion in Annual Plan 1990-91. The matter was considered under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Labour) and it was decided to recommend launching of the survey to Ministry of Finance. Ministry of Finance advised on 5.4.1991 regarding the deferment of the new Plan Scheme by one year. In April, 1992 it was decided to obtain recommendations of SIU of Ministry of Finance with regard to requirements of additional posts in connection with the survey. The recommendations of SIU were received in October, 1993. When consulted, the Finance Division of the Ministry advised that a meeting of Expenditure Finance Committee may be convened for seeking sanction to the creation of posts. Necessary action in this regard has been initiated.

2.6 Summing up, Secretary, Ministry of labour stated during evidence :

> "I can only attribute the position to the fact that they did not want to create for too many posts. So, they kept seeking clarifications until they were fully convinced. They either gave sanctions only for limited posts or for sanctioned posts. I would only submit that we will continue the efforts to fill up these posts.

Recommendation

2.7 The Committee note that the Working Class Family Income & Expenditure survey which was due in 1991-92 could not be initiated for want of clearance by the Government. Although the recommendations of Staff Inspection Unit of Ministry of Finance for creation of additional posts, was received by the Ministry in October, 1993 no further action in this regard has been taken by the Ministry. The Committee are not at all happy with the situation. The Ministry's monitoring in this regard seems to be very poor. In their view such surveys are very useful and steps should be taken up for their speedy and timely processing. The Committee, therefore, strongly recommend that the working class family income and expenditure survey should start without any further loss of time and the Ministry should complete the survey as early as possible. The Committee would like to be informed of the progress made by the Ministry in launching the survey. The Committee desire that in order to have proper information regarding the surveys conducted by the Labour Bureau they should henceforth be supplied copies of all the released reports on a regular basis.

Major Head – 2230

B. Sub-Head C. (20)(3) – Labour Tribunals, courts of enquiry and conciliation boards

2.8 The Ministry has furnished the following statement showing the number of industrial disputes and applications handled by the CGIT-cum-Labour Courts during the year 1994.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE NUMBER OF INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES & APPLICATIONS HANDLED BY THE CGIT-CUM-LABOUR COURTS DURING THE YEAR 1994 (AS ON 31.12.1994)

Sl.	Name of CGIT	Number of Industrial Disputes				Number of Applications			
		B/F from Previous Year	Received during the period	Disposed during the peirod	Pending at the end of the period	B/F from Previous year	Received during the period	Disposed during the period	Pending at the end of the period
1.	Asansol	68	11	0	79	20	2	0	22
2.	Bangalore	336	78	40	374	23	9	8	24
3.	No. 1 Bombay	298	65	130	233	794	191	154	831
4.	No. 2 Bombay	256	64	63	257	642	268	215	695
5.	Calcutta	298	45	0	343	241	10	0	251
6.	Chandigarh	744	174	141	777	1845	378	331	1892
7.	No. 1 Dhanbad	635	278	124	789	165	53	35	183
8.	No. 2 Dhanbad	557	29	47	539	37	1	2	36
9.	Jabalpur	1188	232	45	1375	2224	136	891	1469
10.	Kanpur	822	105	0	927	1188	91	0	1279
11.	New Delhi	605	130	59	676	1220	380	178	1422
	Total :	5807	1211	649	6369	8399	1519	1814	8104

2.9 The Ministry in a written note furnished to the Committee has stated the following reasons for the backlog of cases :—

(i) the delay in filling up the vacancies of Presiding Officers,

(ii) inadequate number of CGIT-cum-Labour Courts,

(iii) a large inflow of industrial disputes due to the judgement of the Supreme Court by which the discretion of the Central Government to withhold adjudication has been reduced, and

(iv) procedural impediments like parties absenting or seeking frequent adjournments, approaching the High Court or the Supreme Court on preliminary points and obtaining stay.

2.10 Regarding filling up of vacancies of presiding officers of CGIT-cum-Labour Courts, the Ministry has stated that it has made vigorous efforts to fill up all vacancies. At present the posts of Presiding Officer in all CGIT-cum-Labour Courts except those at Asansol and Bangalore are filled up.

2.11 In order to clear the backlog the Committee on Labour and Welfare in their Report on he Demands for Grants 1994-95, had recommended for early setting up of 5 more CGIT-cum-Labour Courts and that the judges in Labour Courts be allowed to occupy office upto 65 years of age.

2.12 In regard to opening of 5 more CGIT-cum-Labour Court, the Ministry of Labour has stated that the Working Group on Industrial Relations and Enforcement of Labour Laws constituted in connection with the formulation of the Eighth Five Year Plan had recommended setting up of six more CGIT-cum-Labour Courts. In the initial stage of the Plan period, it was proposed to set up three more CGIT-cum-Labour Courts. The matter was examined in consultation with the Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure. However, owing to Budgetary constraints, sanction for creation of only one CGIT-cum-Labour Courts could be accorded in 1991-92. The newly set up CGIT-cum-Labour Court at Jaipur could also not be made functional so far due to non-availability of a suitable incumbent for the post of Presiding Officer.

2.13 In regard to appointment of Presiding Officers in CGIT-cum-Labour Courts, the Ministry has stated that the response from Judicial officers for appointment as Presiding Officer in a CGIT-cum-Labour Court is generally poor as the terms and conditions laid down appear to them to be unattractive.

2.14 Detailing further the Secretary stated during evidence :—

> "From Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka we have received reports saying that they have revised the scales of the officers from Sessions Judge and above. Earlier, the scale of pay provided by the State Government was much less than what was provided by the Central Government. Now the State Government has increased the scale of pay. So, nobody is willing to come."

2.15 Asked to state the steps taken by the Ministry in making terms and conditions for appointment of Presiding Officers of the Labour Courts/Tribunal attractive by placing them in a suitable grade, the Ministry in a written reply stated that inconsonance with the flexibility provided in the eligibility criteria in the I.D. Act for selection to the post of Presiding Officer, proposal for allowing flexibility of scale of pay of the post of Presiding Officer as per the entitlement of the selected incumbent is under consideration in consultation with Finance.

2.16 Adding further, the Secretary stated during evidence :–

> "The suggestion that we want to make is that the officers scale of pay should certainly be raised. They are required to have certain basic qualifications. They should either have been judges in High Courts or they should have the qualification to become High Court judges. So long as this is the position if a person's scale of pay in his parent State has been enhanced, that scale of pay can be given to him as personal. We have taken up this with the Ministry of Finance."

Recommendation

2.17 The Committee regret to note that the Ministry has not given due priority to their earlier recommendation in regard to setting up of six more CGIT-cum-Labour Courts and filling up of vacancies of Presiding Officers. This has in turn resulted in piling up of pending cases in various Courts.. The Ministry's reply in this regard that owing to Budgetary constraints sanction for creation of only one Court at Jaipur could be accorded and that too could not be made functional so far due to non-availability of a suitable incumbent for the post of Presiding Officer is not at all acceptable to the Committee. While reiterating their earlier recommendation, the Committee are of the firm view that six more CGIT-cum-Labour Courts should be set up and made functional by appointing Presiding Officers without any further loss of time. The

Committee further note that in Southern part of the country there is only one Labour Court at Bangalore and that too is not functioning for want of Presiding Officers. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry should take immediate steps for filling up of all the vacant posts of presiding officers in Labour Courts. As regards making terms and conditions for appointment of Presiding Officers in Labour Courts more attractive by placing them in suitable grades, the Ministry should take up the issue with Ministry of Finance for early clearance of the proposal.

2.18 The Committee are concerned to note that the strikes/lockouts in private establishments are also on the increase. The Committee would, therefore, appreciate if the Ministry look into the problem in totality and brings out suitable legislative or other changes that may be found necessary to curb this tendency.

Major Head – 2230

Sub-Head-C.1(3)(3) (7)

C. Reorganisation and strengthening of the DG FASLI organisation and Establishment of Special Cells

2.19 Budget Estimates for the year 1994-95 was Rs. 23.50 thousand and Revised Estimates for 1994-95 was Rs. 21,30 thousand. The Budget Estimates for the year 1995-96 is Rs. 17 00 thousand.

2.20 It has been stated in the Performance Budget that the main objective of the Organisation is to function as service organisation to advise Central/State Government trade unions, employers and others concerned with matters relating to improving safety, health, productivity and working conditions in factories and ports and to carry out support research facilities for updating the Factories Act as well as the Dock Workers (Safety Health and Welfare Act, 1986).

Dock Safety

2.21 It has been stated by the Ministry that under the Dock Workers (Safety, Health and Welfare) Act, 1986, the Director General of FASLI is the Chief Inspector of Docks for all the eleven major ports. In all, 1,453 inspections of ships and oil tankers were carried out by the Inspector of Dock Safety at the major ports. There were 523 reportable accidents in all the ports during the year. The following statement has been furnished by the Ministry showing the reportable accidents in ports : –

Name of the Port	1900	1991	1992	1993	1994
Bombay	92(6)	71(2)	73(5)	70(7)	67(9)
Calcutta	383(2)	359(2)	242(2)	130(2)	119(6)
Cochin	157(0)	140(1)	179(0)	71(1)	69(0)
Kandla	29(3)	29(0)	76(0)	29(0)	28(0)
Madras	122(2)	90(8)	94(4)	85(6)	84(6)

2.22 Asked to state the details of the steps suggested to the Calcutta Port Management for non-occurrence of accidents in the dockyard, the Ministry of Labour has stated that taking into consideration the seriousness of the situation a special meeting was convened by DG FASLI with the concerned authorities to identify causes leading to these accidents as well as measures for their prevention and reduction. Recommendations for reduction in view of specific accidents were given after thorough analysis of the circumstances involved. In addition, the management was asked to prepare a time bound programme detailing action proposed to be taken by them for improvement of ground conditions, easing of congestion and equipping themselves with container handling equipment. Necessary instructions pertaining to proper and safe use of various equipments were issued and safety conditions to be observed during container movement were prescribed. The management has been further advised to hold frequent meetings with the port users and workers' representatives to reduce accidents in handling container and transport equipments.

2.23 Summing up the performance of DG FASLI in regard to dock safety, representative of the Ministry stated during evidence :-

> "We are definitely going ahead and I would not say that it is very much improved in terms of handling of the cargo by the sophisticated method as spaders and all that. This is going on and things are slowly improving as far as dock safety is concerned. I am continuously pursuing. Our approach is that we continuously interact in the Conference that we had at Kandla we had a meeting with all the producers. We told them what we want and came to know their problems and whatever suggestions they gave. We are taking various measures to see that we improve the performance."

Recommendation

2.24 The Committee are not happy with the functioning of the D.G. FASLI organisation keeping in view the reported accidents at some of the major ports of the country. The inspections of ships and oil tankers carried out by the organisation during the year 1994 are not satisfactory. The Committee note that although D.G. FASLI organisation is shouldering an important task of improving safety, health, productivity, working conditions in factories and ports, yet the Budget earmarked for 1995-96 is 1700 thousand only. The Committee, therefore, urge upon the Ministry to strengthen the organisation by allocating more funds and increasing their staff strength to enable them to carry out more number of inspections in factories and docks to identify the causes leading to accidents as well as take measures for their prevention and reduction.

Major Head – 2230

D. Sub Head – C.1(3)(4) – Directorate General Mines Safety

2.25 It has been stated by the Ministry that the number of mines inspected during 1994 were 9183. 35 Coal Mines of the five coal companies have so far been identified as accident prone mines.

2.26 Asked whether the Ministry is satisfied with the inspection carried out by DGMS the Ministry has stated in a written note that the number of inspection (9183) and enquiries (1910) conducted by the existing DGMS staff during the year 1994 is considered satisfactory. Keeping in view the increase in mining activities a fivefold increase in the staff complement has been considered necessary. However, it has not been possible to create additional posts due to economy measures.

2.27 The Ministry has further stated that on the basis of the accident statistics of the last five years some mines of different companies are

identified as accident prone. The position of five coal companies in respect of which the exercises have been completed are given below.

Sl. No.	*Coal Company*	*Total No. of mines*	*No. of identified accident porone mines*
1.	Bharat Coking Coal Limited	103	7
2.	Eastern Coalfields Limited	138	10
3.	Western Coalfields Limited	67	7
4.	Singereni Collieries Co. Ltd.	69	9
5.	Northern Coalfields Limited	10	2
		387	35

2.28 After identification the coal companies are required to take special safety measures in these mines. During inspections special attention is paid to the accident prone mines and special periodical measures are suggested from time to time. As a result of the special drives the number of fatal accidents in the accident prone mines of two coal companies i.e. BCCL and ECL had reduced substantially during 1994.

2.29 The Ministry has furnished the following statement showing the action taken in case of fatal accidents.

Type of action taken		*No. of persons punished*	
		Coal	*Non-Coal*
A.		Action taken by Management	
1.	Warned by Management	3	0
2.	Transferred by Management	1	1
3.	Promotion withheld	0	1
4.	Increment withheld	6	2
5.	Suspension	8	2
6.	Removed from service	2	1
7.	Others	21	8
B.		Action taken by DGMS	
1.	Warning	7	2
2.	Prosecution	17	5
3.	Others	0	1

Subtotal	24	8
Total	45	16
Court of Enquiry	1	0
No. of deceased worker held responsible	28	8
Misadventure cases	20	2
Action under progress	55	25

2.30 Safety Conferences are held once in every three years. The last conference was held on 14th and 15th May, 1993. During the year 1994, 13 safety weeks in coal mines and 22 in non-coal mines were celebrated.

2.31 Asked to state the number of conferences on safety in mines held by the DGMS during the last 3 years alongwith number of safety weeks observed and safety campaign launched, the Ministry has replied that safety conferences are held once in every three years. The last conference was held on 14th and 15th May, 1993. During the year 1994, 13 safety weeks in coal mines and 22 in non-coal mines were celebrated.

Recommendation

2.32 The Committee note with distress that although the Ministry realises that with the increase in mining activities a five fold increase in the staff complement is justified they have not been able to create additional posts due to economy measures. The Committee are not at all happy with the situation keeping in view the fact that the number of fatal accidents in the mines are increasing. The Committee, therefore, strongly recommend that more funds should be allocated to the Director General, Mines Safety so that they are equipped with required staff strength without any further delay. They are also of the view that the number of inspection of mines should increase and safety conferences should be held every year.

Major Head – 2230

E. Sub-Head C.1(10)(2) – Social Security for Labour Deposit Linked Insurance Scheme

2.33 It has been stated in the Performance Budget that the Employees' Provident Fund & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 provides

for Provident Fund, Family Pension and Employees' Deposit Linked Insurance Scheme for employees in factories and other establishments. The administration of the three schemes, namely, (i) The Employees' Provident Fund Scheme, 1952, (ii) Employees' Family Pension Scheme, 1971 and (iii) Employees' Deposit Linked Insurance Scheme, 1976 is the responsibility of the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation, a statutory autonomous body.

2.34 It has been further mentioned that the number of subscribers both in "exempted and un-exempted" establishment was 179.90 lakhs in 1993-94. The estimate for 1994-95 is 188.86 lakh subscribers and for 1995-96 it is about 194.60 lakh subscribers.

2.35 Asked to state whether any survey has been conducted to ascertain the number of establishments which are in existence for the last three years and employing more than 20 persons but not covered under EPF, the Ministry has stated in a written note that the EPF & FP Act, 1952 applies on its own vigour. The establishments employing 20 or more persons are required to comply with the provisions of the Act as soon as they complete three years' infancy period. The work relating to survey and coverage of new establishments is undertaken by the EPF Authorities on an ongoing basis. The progressive total number of establishments covered under the EPF scheme during the last three years is as under :-

Year	*No. of establishments covered (in lakhs)*
1991-92	2.12
1992-93	2.24
1993-94	2.37

Recommendation

2.36 The Committee note that although the country has a 315 million work force only 17 million have so far been covered under the EPF and FP Act, 1952. The reply of the Ministry that the EPF and FP Act, 1952 applies on its own vigour is not acceptable to the Committee. Keeping in view the fact that Employees Provident Fund is a social security for labour, the Committee strongly recommend that the Ministry should conduct a survey to ascertain the number of coverable establishments at the earliest. The job may be entrusted to either Labour

Bureau or NSSO. The Committee also note that quantum of employment, infancy period, and scheduled industries restrictions incorporated in the PF and FP Act, 1952 had relevance earlier but have now become a source of unfair practice by unscrupulous employers. The Committee, therefore, urge upon the Ministry to amend the Act so that an ordinary labourer is not deprived of his rights.

2.37 The Committee desire that the Ministry should speed up recovery of outstanding dues by taking stern legal action against the defaulty establishments. Stern legal action should also be initiated to get the legal cases disposed off quickly.

Major Head – 223

F. Sub-Head 2(3)(1)(3) – Employment Exchanges

2.38 It has been stated by the Ministry that the network of Employment Exchanges numbering 886 at the end of June, 1994 throughout the country undertake registration of job seekers and their referal to employers against notified demands based on qualification skill and work-experience. This network includes 84 University Employment Information and Guidance Bureaux, 15 professional and executive Employment Exchanges and 23 Special Employment Exchanges for the Physically Handicapped.

Survey of Unemployed

2.39 The Ministry has stated that the National Sample Survey Organisation conducts surveys on unemployment in the country from time to time. The latest survey on unemployment conducted by this organisation in their 43rd round pertains to the year 1987-88.

2.40 The Ministry has further stated that the survey is carried out by NSSO as a part of their 10 years' fixed programme. Fixed work for the last survey was carried out by NSSO during 1993-94 (July 1993 June 1994). The result is expected to be available by the end of this year.

2.41 Adding further, Secretary, Ministry of Labour stated during evidence :

> "The total number of job seekers on the live register of employment exchanges, as reported by the employment exchanges from the various States for the last three years is : for 1991, it was 3.62 crores; for 1992, it was 3.67 crores; and for 1993,

it was 3.62 crores. So, these figures have remained more or less static. There was just a slight variation in the second year."

Activity status of Employment Exchanges

2.42 The Ministry has stated that due to staff constraints in the DGE&T, the reports on he work of joint evaluation of employment exchanges were finalised in respect of Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Meghalaya and Andaman & Nicobar Islands during the at three years and sent to the concerned State Governments.

2.43 Asked to state the time by which the Joint Evaluation Report is expected to be completed, the representative of the Ministry of Labour stated during evidence : –

"We have decided to complete 20 such joint evaluation reports before the end of March, 1996."

2.44 Asked to state the steps taken by the Ministry to improve the functioning of Employment Exchanges, Secretary, Ministry of Labour stated during evidence :–

"There is need for computerisation and modernisation."

Special Cells for Self Employment

2.45. The Ministry has stated that under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of strengthening of employment exchanges for promotion of self-employment which was initiated on pilot basis in 1983-94, 28 Self Employment Promotion Cells (SEPCs) were set up in 20 States in the country. This scheme was transferred to State/UT Governments with effect from 1.4.90. As per the latest information available, out of 28 cells, 4 cells two each in Gujarat (i.e. Surendernagar and Godhara) and Tamil Nadu (i.e. Coimbatore and Vellore) have been closed by the respective State Governments. Though the number of Cells has been reduced to 24, the total on live register of the Cells has increased from 1.92 lakhs in December, 1993 to 2.25 lakhs in December, 1994. The Ministry has also furnished a statement showing the Centrewise live register of these cells.

2.46 Number of job-seekers on live register of employment exchange, by Categories, as on 31.12.1993.

(In thousands) Annexure - III

States/Union Territory	Total	Women	Scheduled Castes	Scheduled Tribes
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	2996.6	500.8	398.8	70.9
Arunachal Pradesh	7.7	2.3	@	0.4
Assam	1377.0	288.0	75.3	140.0
Bihar	3339.3	223.0	379.7	242.8
Goa	116.3	36.9	1.4	@
Gujarat	973.6	132.8	172.2	93.6
Haryana	676.3	108.8	110.3	@
Himachal Pradesh	482.8	110.6	90.3	13.9
Jammu & Kashmir	137.8	23.7	8.6	0.5
Karnataka	1575.4	330.5	187.4	28.3
Kerala	4171.0	2095.7	393.6	20.1
Madhya Pradesh	1939.6	275.6	273.7	190.0
Maharashtra	3349.4	559.3	536.4	118.9
Manipur	229.9	63.0	1.8	54.1
Meghalaya	27.6	10.6	0.3	18.7
Mizoram	39.9	9.9	–	38.8
Nagaland	20.7	6.0	1.1	19.5
Orissa	857.8	126.0	117.1	73.4
Punjab	645.8	142.8	181.3	@
Rajasthan	828.7	84.7	127.3	57.8
Sikkim*				
Tamil Nadu	3860.0	1168.1	804.4	13.9
Tripura	189.2	64.0	12.0	13.9
Uttar Pradesh	2379.6	192.2	454.0	.9.8
West Bengal	4851.1	1028.1	456.1	86.8
Union Territories				
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	18.8	6.1	–	0.7
Chandigarh	161.6	33.2	41.9	0.1
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	3.5	1.0	2.0	0.9
Delhi	908.0	197.0	138.7	18.6
Daman & Diu	3.0	0.7	0.2	0.3
Lakshadweep	7.9	1.9	–	6.4
Pondicherry	135.5	42.2	10.0	@
Total	36275.5	7865.3	4974.0	1333.2

Note :– 1. *No Employment Exchange is functioning in this State.
2. @Figures less than 50.
3. Figures may not add up to total due to rounding off.

2.47 Asked to comment on the deteriorating functioning of Self Employment Cells after the scheme was transferred to State/UT Government with effect from 1.4.1990, the Ministry has replied that qualitative deterioration has not yet been brought to the notice of this Ministry.

Recommendation

2.48 The Committee note with concern that the Ministry of Labour could finalise joint evaluation reports of the Employment exchanges in respect of only four States during the last three years. The reason put forth by the Ministry that due to staff constraints in DGET they were not in a position to evaluate the work of employment exchanges in other States is not acceptable to the Committee. In view of the Committee, the Ministry lacks in coordination and its monitoring is not up to the mark. They, therefore, recommend that the Ministry should take immediate steps to fill the vacant posts in the DGET in consultation with UPSC and the work of joint evaluation of employment exchanges in other States should be completed at the earliest. The Committee desire that progress made in this regard may be intimated to them within six months.

2.49 The Committee regret to note that the Ministry is not having an authentic data of unemployed as on date. In their view unless the Ministry has an authentic data of unemployed, they will not be in a position to combat unemployment, problem. They, therefore, recommend that the Ministry should have regular surveys for having an authentic data of unemployed in the country on yearly basis.

2.50 The Committee take a serious note of the fact that the Employment Exchanges are functioning in a manner which is archaic without using any of the new techniques offered by modern technology and management. They, therefore, strongly recommend that the operations and overall functioning of the Employment Exchanges should be improved, with the help of computers, where necessary, so that these important establishments move with times. The Committee are also of the view that there should be regular monitoring of the functioning of the Employment Exchanges by the Ministry.

2.51 The Committee note with distress that functioning of the scheme of strengthening of Employment Exchanges for promotion of self employment has deteriorated after the scheme was transferred to State/UT Governments w.e.f. 1.4.90. The Committee further note that though the number of self employment promotion cells has been

reduced the total on live register of the cells has increased from 1.92 lakhs in December, 1993 to 2.25 lakhs in December, 1994. They view the situation very seriously and recommend that the Ministry should take up the issue with NDC for reconsideration of the decision. They also desire that scheme on computerisation which has been transferred to State/UT Governments should revert back under control of the Centre.

Major Head – 2230

G. Sub-Head – C.1(12)(1)(3) – National Child Labour Policy

2.52 Revised Estimate for the year 1994-95 under the scheme was Rs. 363 lakhs. Budget Estimate for the year 1995-96 is Rs. 3300 lakhs.

2.54 Asked to state the reasons for enhancing the amount under the scheme, the Ministry of Labour has stated in a written note furnished to the Committee that the enhanced allocation has been made keeping in view the announcement of the Prime Minister in his Independence Day speech on August 15, 1994 to eliminate child labour in hazardous occupations by the year 2000 A.D. largely by activities modelled on the lines of the on-going National Child Labour Projects which are being suitably modified for implementation during 1995-96.

2.54 Regarding functioning of special schools for the child labour, the Secretary, Ministry of Labour stated during evidence :–

> "It is fact that in the special schools run under the National Child Labour Project, the result is not 100 per cent. Our Labour Minister is the Chairman of National Child Labour Authority. He has got a circular drafted in consultation with the Finance Secretary and the Education Secretary. He has written to all the Labour Ministers requesting them that greater attention should be given to the running of these special schools under the National Child Labour Project as well as under other programmes. We should not allow our children to re-lapse into the child labour. I can tell you that things are not very happy and we are taking necessary corrective measures."

Major Head – 2230

H. Sub-Head – C.1(12)(1)(4) – Child Labour Cell

2.55 Budget Estimates and Revised Budget Estimate for the year 1994-95 was Rs. 4,34,00 thousand and Budget Estimate for the year 1995-96 is Rs. 34,40,00 thousand.

2.56 Asked to state the steps taken by the Government for conducting survey in child labour concentration in order to have an authentic data on child labour after taking into account 1991 census as had been recommended by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Labour and Welfare in their report on Demands for Grants, 1994-95, the Ministry in a written reply has stated that the authentic district-wise data on child labour in the country is available in 1981 census. The 1991 census figures on child labour are still awaited. The State Government of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu & Uttar Pradesh which account for more than 70% of the child labour population (1981 census) of the country have been asked to send detailed proposals for funding of surveys of child labour in their respective States. Two of the States which have been addressed – Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh have submitted their proposal. While the UP Survey proposal is under examination, and amount of Rs. 19,76,000 has been released in 1994-95 to the Government of Tamil Nadu to carry out a detailed survey of child labour in that State. In addition, Rs. 1,65,000 for undertaking a survey as per proposals submitted by the Government of Orissa has also been released in 1994-95.

Recommendation

2.57 The Committee note that although the Ministry have been allocated Rs. 33 crores under National Child Labour Project to eliminate child labour in hazardous occupations in a phased manner, they are not having an authentic data of child labour as per 1991 census report. The Committee further note that only two States, namely, Tamil Nadu & Uttar Pradesh have so far submitted their proposals for funding of surveys on child labour in their respective States. While viewing the situation with concern, the Committee urge upon the Ministry to take up the issue at the highest level so that other States which account for more than 70% of the child labour population should submit their proposals for funding of surveys at the earliest. The Registrar General of Census should also be requested to release the 1991 Census report at the earliest.

2.58 As regards amending the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1985, the Committee note that Ministry of Labour has furnished the same reply which they had furnished almost a year and half back. While reiterating their earlier recommendation, the Committee urge upon the Ministry to take up the issue with the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs to speed up the proposed amendment.

2.59 The Committee are also of the view that greater attention should be given to the running of special schools under the National Child Labour Project so that the children admitted in these schools are not allowed to relapse into child labour. The performance of these schools should be monitored at regular intervals.

New Delhi
April 20, 1995
Chaitra 30, 1917 (S)

CHANDRA PRABHA URS
Chairperson,
Standing Committee on Labour and Welfare.

ANNEXURE—I

MINUTES OF THE THIRD SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOUR AND WELFARE HELD ON 20 APRIL, 1995

The Committee sat from 11.00 hrs. to 14.00 hrs. in Committee Room 'B', Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi

PRESENT

Smt. Chandra Prabha Urs — Chairperson

MEMBERS

Lok Sabha

2. Shri Siddappa Bhimappa Nyamegoudar
3. Dr. P. Vallal Peruman
4. Dr. Chinta Mohan
5. Shri B. Akbar Pasha
6. Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat
7. Shri Ram Narain Berwa
8. Shri Shiv Raj Singh Chauhan
9. Shri Mahendra Baitha
10. Shri Ajoy Mukhopadhyay
11. Shri Vishwanath Shastri

Rajya Sabha

12. Shri Gundappa Korwar
13. Shri Kameshwar Paswan
14. Shri Ram Ratan Ram
15. Shri Jibon Roy
16. Shri Joyanta Roy

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri G.C. Malhotra — Joint Secretary
2. Shri Satish Loomba — Deputy Secretary
3. Shri R.S. Misra — Assistant Director

The Committee considered and adopted the draft Eleventh Report on the Demands for Grants of Ministry of Labour with following modifications :

Page No. 4. Para 1.11 line 4 after 'regard' add—

'at the earliest'

Page No. 4. after Para 1.11 add—

1.12. The Committee are of the view that it is urgent and paramount importance that some kind of concensus between the States should be elicited, through the efforts of the Central Government to ensure that a common national minimum wage is fixed so that the problems of migration of workers or closure of establishments or other administrative problems can be tackled effectively.

Page No. 11. after Para 2.17 add—

2.18. The Committee are concerned to note that the strikes/lockouts in private establishments are also on the increase. The Committee would, therefore, appreciate if the Ministry look into the problem in totality and brings out suitable legislative or other changes that may be found necessary to curb this tendency.

Page No. 17 Para 2.37 line 2 after 'due' add—

'by taking stern legal action'

Page No. 17 para 2.37 line 3 before 'action' add—'stern legal'

Page 20 after para 2.50 add—

2.51—The Committee take a serious note of the fact that the Employment Exchanges are functioning in a manner which is archaic without using any of the new techniques offered by modern technology and management. They, therefore, strongly recommend that the operations and overall functioning of the Employment Exchanges should be improved, with the help of computers, where necessary, so that these important establishments move with the times. The Committee are also of the view that there should be regular monitoring of the functioning of the Employment Exchanges by the Ministry.

page 24—para 2.51 line 4 words 'reversion of the scheme under the control of centre replace by 'reconsideration of the decision'

The Committee authorised the Chair person to finalise the Report and present the same to Parliament.

The Committee then adjourned.

ANNEXURE—II

STATEMENT OF CONCLUSION/RECOMMENDATIONS

Sl. No.	Para No.	Conclusions/Recommendations
1.	2.	3.
1	1.8	The Committee are not at all satisfied with the performance of the Ministry in so far as the plan expenditure is concerned. The total percentage of plan expenditure in the year 1994-95 as an 28-2-95 comes out to 21.19 which is far from being satisfactory. The Committee note that eighty percent of the plan allocation of Ministry of Labour for the last three financial years has been for training. The Ministry has however been able to spend only thirty two per cent of the total outlays during the period. The expenditure on outlays, other plan schemes such as Research and Statistics, Child, Labour, Women's Cell, Industrial Relations etc. has also been low. In their Fourth Report on Demands for Grants, 1994-95, the Committee had recommended that the funds allocated for various schemes should be utilised during the financial year for which they are earmarked. While reiterating their earlier recommendation the Committee desired that they should be informed about the progress made/expenditure incurred in various plan schemes after every six months.
2.	1.9	The Committee are pained to note that the Ministry has taken the recommendations very lightly. In their view the Committee's recommendations should invariably be forwarded to the Planning Commission at the time of submission of Annual Plan proposals of the Ministry. As regard creation of posts, release of funds for various schemes, the Committee's view should accompany the Ministry's request to Ministry of Finance.

Sl. No.	Para No.	Conclusions/Recommendations
1.	2.	3.
3	1.10	Although the Committee appreciate the efforts made by the Ministry in getting clearance of the proposal for procurement of equipment from the World Bank they are of the opinion that the matter should have been taken up with the World Bank after seeking help from the Department of Economic Affairs at an early stage. Nevertheless they desire that the Ministry of Labour should henceforth take steps in advance for early completion of the project and there should not be more slipages on any account. As regards poor response from some of the State Government in providing matching grant, construction of buildings etc. under the World Bank Project, the matter should be taken up at the Minister's level. While reiterating their earlier recommendation, the Committee are of the view that progress reports pertaining to stages achieved in the implementation of various schemes under the World Bank project should invariably be furnished to the Committee every six months.
4	1.11	The Committee are concerned to note that though the Government have been impressing upon the State Governmnts and UT Administration for the speedy implementation of the recommendations of the Bachhawat Wage Board and requesting them to create a Tripartite Committee/ Special Cells at the highest level in this regard, responses from some of the State Governments have been far from satisfactory. The Committee view the situation seriously. They urge upon the Ministry to take up the issue at the Ministers' level for speedy implementation of the recommendations.

Sl. No.	Para No.	Conclusions/Recommendations
1.	2.	3.
		The Committee would like to be informed of the progress made in this regard at the earliest.
5	1.12	The Committee are of the view that it is urgent and paramount importance that some kind of concensus between the States should be elicited, through the efforts of the Central Government to ensure that a common national minimum wage is fixed so that the problems of migration of workers or closure of establishments or other administrative problems can be tackled effectively.
6.	2.7	The Committee note that the Working Class Family Income & Expenditure survey which was due in 1991-92 could not be initiated for want of clearance by the Government. Although the recommendations of Staff Inspection Unit of Ministry of Finance for creation of additional posts, was received by the Ministry in October, 1993 no further action in this regard has been taken by the Ministry. The Committee are not at all happy with the situation. The Ministry's monitoring in this regard seems to be very poor. In their view, such surveys are very useful and steps should be taken up for their speedy and timely processing. The Committee, therefore strongly recommend that the working class family income and expenditure survey should start without any further loss of time and the Ministry should complete the survey as early as possible. The Committee would like to be informed of the progress made by the Ministry in launching the survey. The Committee desire that in order to have proper information regarding the surveys conducted by the Labour Bureau they should hence forth be supplied copies of all the released reports on a regular basis.

Sl. No.	Para No.	Conclusions/Recommendations
1.	2.	3.
7.	2.17	The Committee regret to note that the Ministry has not given due priority to their earlier recommendation in regard to setting up of six more CGIT-cum-Labour Courts and filling up of vacancies of Presiding Officers. This has in turn resulted in piling up of pending cases in various Courts. The Ministry's reply in this regard that owing to budgetary constraints sanction for creation of only one court at Jaipur could be accorded and that too could not be made functional so far due to non availability of a suitable incumbent for the post of Presiding Officer is not at all acceptable to the Committee. While reiterating their earlier recommendation, the Committee are of the firm view that six more CGIT-cum-Labour Courts should be set up and made functional by appointing Presiding officers without any further loss of time. The Committee further note that in Sourthern Part of the country there is only one Labour Court at Bangalore and that too is not functioning for want of Presiding Officer. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry should take immediate steps for filling up of all the vacant posts of Presiding Officers in Labour Courts. As regards making terms and conditions for appointment of Presiding Officers in Labour Courts more attractive by placing them in suitable grades, the Ministry should take up the issue with Ministry of Finance for early clearance of the proposal.
8	2.18	The Committee are concerned to note that the strikes/lockouts in private establishments are also on the increase. The

Sl. No.	Para No.	Conclusions/Recommendations
1.	2.	3.
		Committee would, therefore, appreciate if the Ministry look into the problem in totality and brings out suitable legislative or other changes that may be found necessary to curb this tendency.
9	2.24	The Committee are not happy with the functioning of the D.G. FASLI organisation keeping in view the reported accidents at some of the major ports of the country. The inspections of ships and oil tankers carried out by the organisation during the year 1994 are not satisfactory. The Committee note that although D.G. FASLI organisation is shouldering an important task of improving safety, health, productivity, working conditions in factories and ports, yet the Budget earmarked for 1995-96 is 1700 thousand only. The Committee, therefore, urge upon the Ministry to strengthen the organisation by allocating more funds and increasing their staff strength to enable them to carry out more number of inspections in factories and docks to identify the causes leading to accidents as well as take measures for their prevention and reduction.
10	2.32	The Committee note with distress that although the Ministry realises that with the increase in mining activities a five fold increase in the staff complement is justified they have not been able to create additional posts due to economy meausres. The Committee are not at all happy with the situation keeping in view the fact that the number of fatal accidents in the mines are increasing. The Committee, therefore, strongly recommend that more funds should

Sl. No.	Para No.	Conclusions/Recommendations
1.	2.	3.
		be allocated to the Director General. Mines Safety so that they are equipped with required staff strength without any further delay. They are also of the view that the number of inspection of mines should increase and safety conferences should be held every year.
11	2.36	The Committee note that although the country has a 315 million work force only 17 million have so far been covered under the EPF and FP Act, 1952. The reply of the Ministry that the EPF and FP Act, 1952 applies on its own vigour is not acceptable to the Committee. Keeping in view the fact that Employees Provident Fund is a social security for labour, the Committee strongly recommend that the Ministry should conduct a survey to asccertain the number of coverable establishments at the earliest. The job may be entrusted to either Labour Bureau or NSSO. The Committee also note that quantum of employment, infancy period, and scheduled industries restrictions incorporated in the EPF and FP Act, 1952 had relevance earlier but have now become a source of unfair practice by unscruplous employers. The Committee, therefore, urge upon the Ministry to amend the Act so that an ordinary labourer is not deprived of his rights.
12	2.37	The Committee desire that the Ministry should speed up recovery of outstanding dues by taking stern legal action against the defaulty establishments. Action should also be initiated to get the legal cases disposed off quickly.

Sl. No.	Para No.	Conclusions/Recommendations
1.	2.	3.
13	2.48	The Committee note with concern that the Ministry of Labour could finalise joint evaluation reports of the Employment Exchanges in respect of only four States during the last three years. The reason put forth by the Ministry that due to staff constraints in DGET they were not in a position to evaluate the work of employment exchanges in other States is not acceptable to the Committee. In view of the Committee, the Ministry lacks in coordination and its monitoring is not up to the mark. They, therefore, recommend that the Ministry should take immediate steps to fill the vacant posts in the DGET in consultation with UPSC and the work of joint evaluation of employment exchanges in other States should be completed at the earliest. The Committee desire that progress made in this regard may be intimated to them within six months.
14	2.49	The Committee regret to note that the Ministry is not having an authentic data of unemployed as on date. In their view unless the Ministry has an authentic data of unemployed, they will not be in a position to combat unemployment problem. They, therefore, recommend that the Ministry should have regular surveys for having an authentic data of unemployed in the country on yearly basis.
15	2.50	The Committee take a serious note of the fact that the Employment Exchanges are functioning in a manner which is archai without using any of the new techniques offered by modern technology and management. They, therefore, strongly

Sl. No.	Para No.	Conclusions/Recommendations
1.	2.	3.
		recommend that the operations and overall functioning of the Employment Exchanges should be improved, with the help of computers, where necessary, so that these important establishments move with the times. The Committee are also of the view that there should be regular monitoring of the functioning of the Employment Exchanges by the Ministry.
16	2.51	The Committee note with concern that functioning of the scheme of strengthening of Employment Exchanges for promotion of self employment has deteriorated after the scheme was transferred to State/UT Governments w.e.f. 1.4.90. The Committee further note that though the number of self employment promotion cells has been reduced the total on live register of the cells has increased from 1.92 lakhs in December, 1993 to 2.25 lakhs in December, 1994. They view the situation very seriously and recommend that the Ministry should take up the issue with NDC for reconsideration of the decision. They also desire that scheme on computerisation which has been transferred to State/UT Governments should revert back under control of the Centre.
17	2.57	The Committee note that although the Ministry have been allocated Rs. 33 crores under National Child Labour Project to eliminate child labour in hazardous occupations in a phased manner, they are not having an authentic data of child labour as per 1991 census report. The Committee further note that only two states, namely, Tamil Nadu & Uttar Pradesh have so far submitted their proposals for funding of

Sl. No.	Para No.	Conclusions/Recommendations
1.	2.	3.
		surveys on child labour in their respective States. While viewing the situation with concern, the Committee urge upon the Minsitry to take up the issue at the highest level so that other States which account for more than 70% of the child labour population should submit their proposals for funding of surveys at the earliest. The Registrar General of Census should also be requested to release the 1991 census report at the earliest.
18	2.58	As regards amending the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1985, the Committee note that Ministry of Labour has furnished the same reply which they had furnished almost a year and half back. While reiterating their earlier recommendation, the Committee urge upon the Ministry to take up the issue with the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs to speed up the proposed amendment.
19	2.59	The Committee are also of the view that greater attention should be given to the running of special schools under the National Child Labour Project so that the children admitted in these schools are not allowed to relapse into child labour. The performance of these schools should be monitored at regular intervals.